

## MAR 13 2007

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

23448

**Fax No. (571) 273-8300**

I hereby certify that this document is being filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, via facsimile transmission, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and transmitted on the date specified below, to United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile transmission number (571) 273-8300.

Number of Page

~~Tracey Langston~~

March 13, 2007

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## STATUS INQUIRY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/507,924

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

4279-173

Sir:

In view of the amount of time that has passed since the filing of the above-identified patent application, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is requested to furnish the undersigned attorney with an identification of the current status of this application. No Notice to File Missing Parts or Office Action has been received by the undersigned attorney.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office therefore is requested to determine the present status of the application and identify a time by which the applicant may expect to receive an initial action based on merits.

Please address any questions concerning the foregoing to the undersigned attorney at (919) 419-9350.

Respectfully submitted,



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Steven J. Hultquist  
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Attorney for Applicants

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